

# WHAT ALEXANDRIA NEEDS

By MAYOR FRED J. PAFF.

There is no city in the country richer from a historic point of view than Alexandria. Of this we are pardonably proud. We have many points of interest relating to Revolutionary times, as well as the war of 1861, which attract thousands to



—Photo by Jameson Studio.  
F. J. PAFF, Mayor.

the portals of our city annually. Such things are a valuable asset to any community and should be nourished and cherished.

But the burning question at this time is: What can the present generation do to upbuild and place Alexandria where she rightly belongs in the commercial world? What is needed?

The natural advantages of our city are too obvious to pass unnoticed, and must some time, sooner or later, be productive of greater results than we have yet achieved.

The shipping facilities of Alexandria, both rail and water, are unexcelled.

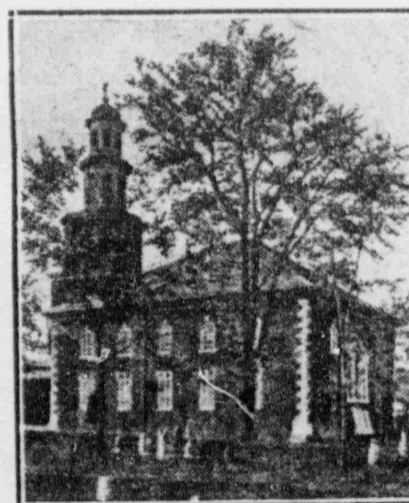
To my mind, what we need to bring about such a condition as we all hope for is diversified manufacturing and a wholesale jobbing business, which will bring money from other sections and give employment.

As previously stated, Alexandria's natural advantages and admirable shipping facilities make it especially attractive for the location of such businesses, as can be attested by merchants already located here and doing well in some lines.

Another great need of our community is the extension of the city limits. There is no question that we have a congested, closely built-up city, and our claims for the right to take in certain outlying districts adjacent to our border lines could be easily established. We undoubtedly have the foundation here for a progressive, wide-awake commercial city, and our location at the threshold of a large and growing city like Washington adds much to the city's possibilities as a manufacturing and wholesale center.

We all realize that more of the improved streets, such as have been laid in recent years, would add greatly to the appearance and attractiveness of the place, but, in this connection, I must add that our city fathers are progressing with this work as rapidly as is now possible, as the recently proclaimed constitution of the State of Virginia so altered the laws as to compel councils of cities to discontinue doing street work under the regime they were working.

Summing up the whole situation, I feel justified in the assertion that we have a very much better city than some of our friends who never come to see us give us credit for.



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